

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were examined. Claims 1 and 15 are amended. Claims 12 and 16 are canceled. Claims 1-11, 13-15 and 17-24 remain in the Application.

The Patent Office rejects claims 1-3, 5-6, 9-11, 15, 17-19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). The Patent Office objects to claims 4, 7-8, 12-14, 16, 20-22 and 23-24. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 9-11, 15, 17-19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by DE 19928564 of Rosner et al. (Rosner). Independent claims 1 and 15 are amended to include the limitation of claims 12 and 16, respectively. Claims 12 and 16 were not cited by the Patent Office as anticipated by Rosner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Patent Office withdraw the rejection to claims 1-3, 5-6, 9-11, 15, 17-19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

The Patent Office objects to claims 4, 7-8, 12-14, 16, 20-21 and 23-24 as dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants believe this objection is overcome in view of the above amendments to claims 1 and 15. Applicants respectfully request the Patent Office withdraw the objection to claims 4, 7-8, 13-14, 20-21 and 23-24.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nedy Calderon 8/28/05
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